



ATTACHMENT A

Remarks

Before considering the rejections of the claims, the allowance of claims 4, 6-9, 14, 16-19, 22, 24-26 and 29 and 30 is gratefully acknowledged. In order to expedite the prosecution, claim 13 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 19, claim 21 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 26 and claim 28 has been amended to include subject matter corresponding to that recited in allowable claim 4. In the latter regard, although claim 4 depends from claim 1, claim 28 has been amended so as to recite a plurality of ports and to recite that the output of the displaying means is arranged in a priority based on the ports utilized by the at least two peripheral devices. Thus while claim 28 is an apparatus claim, the scope thereof is comparable to that of claim 4. Finally, claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 31.

The only remaining dependent claim is claim 1 and this claim has been amended to recite that a plurality of utilization devices are communicatively coupled to respective ports of the plurality of ports, and to recite that the step of configuring a user-interface operating on the information handling system based on the predetermined utilization of the devices of the plurality of ports, is also based on a relation defined between the ports. This defining of a relationship between the ports is disclosed at, e.g., page 7, the last sentence of the last paragraph. As discussed in the specification, this defined relationship may take a number of different forms as described, for example, in the second paragraph on page 9 and the second paragraph on page 8. For example, the arrangement can be one that indicates the importance of the devices to the user or can be based on some other priority. In other examples, the relationship can be a physical one so that, as described at page 9, if one device were plugged into the left of another device, the corresponding content of the first device may appear to the left and/or adjacent on a user interface. Further, priority can be assigned based on temporal considerations wherein the later connected peripheral device

is given higher priority than a peripheral device that has already been connected, or wherein priority is assigned using a lookup table based on heuristic data. A number of other examples are provided in the specification, and the invention is, of course, not limited to these specific examples.

It is respectfully submitted claim 1, as amended, is, in essence, a generic version of some of the allowed claims and thus, entry thereof at this stage of the prosecution is appropriate and is respectfully requested.

Turning to the primary reference, the Mano patent, in rejecting claim 1 in its previous form, the Examiner has contended that “Mano discloses monitoring a plurality of ports included on the information handling system” and refers to column 3, lines 2-10. These lines provide that “[w]hen a device is added to the serial bus, a graphical image representing that device is automatically displayed in the graphical user interface.” These lines also provide that “when a device is removed from the serial bus, the graphical image representing that device is grayed out, leaving a shadow of the graphical image until the device is re-coupled or the system is powered off.” In an alternative embodiment, “the application can be implemented remove the device from the graphical user interface as soon as the device is removed from the serial bus.”

It is respectfully submitted that there is no disclosure in the Mano patent of monitoring a plurality of ports. Instead, Mano is concerned with determining when a device is added to the serial bus and then providing for automatic display of a graphical image representing that device.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that there is no teaching in the Mano patent of determining utilization by a utilization device of a particular port of a plurality of ports. In this regard, the passages of the Mano patent to which the Examiner refers, viz., column 3, lines 11-20, simply provide that, in “a further alternate embodiment, the device is also grayed out within the graphical user interface when the device is powered off, but remains coupled to the serial bus.” In addition, this portion of the Mano patent refers to tasks performed by the devices coupled to the serial bus being controlled and monitored by the user

through the graphical interface of the computer system, and provides for the use of a cursor control device in choosing options displayed in the graphical user-interface. This portion of the reference also states that one or more “task windows “ may be included in the interface to help the user select the task to be performed. It is respectfully submitted that this is not a teaching of determining utilization by a utilization device of a particular port of a plurality of ports, as recited in claim 1.

While for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the basic arguments advanced by the Examiner are not well taken, claim 1 has been amended to even more clearly define over the Mano reference, as was also indicated above. It is respectfully submitted that there is no teaching or suggestion whatsoever in the Mano patent of configuring a user-interface based on a relation defined between the ports, as now claimed in claim 1. The graphical display of Mano does not take into account the particular port at which a device is connected, and is certainly indifferent to the various addresses at which the devices are connected. The display provided by Mano in Figures 1 to 4 is one in which the bus 16 is represented in a generic manner, and the display is in no way dependent on any relationship between the addresses at which the various devices are depicted. The concern in Mano is with displaying a device when the device is added to the serial bus, and graying out the graphical image representing the device when the device is removed from the serial bus. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that with the changes that have been made to claim 1, this claim now even more clearly defines over the Mano reference. Accordingly, allowance of this claim and the claims dependent thereon, along with all of the other allowable claims, is respectfully requested.

For the reasons set forth above, allowance of the application in its present form is respectfully solicited.

END REMARKS

ATTACHMENT B

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of configuring a user interface of an information handling system based on, utilization of ports included with the information handling system, comprising the steps of:

monitoring a plurality of ports included on the information handling system;
determining utilization by a utilization device of a port of the plurality of ports

wherein

the a plurality of utilization devices is are communicatively coupled to respective at least said ports of the plurality of ports; and

configuring a user-interface operating on the information handling system
based on the determined utilization by the devices of the ports of the
plurality of ports and on a relationship defined between the ports.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 1, wherein the step of determining utilization by the device of the port includes determining which port of the plurality of ports to which the device is communicatively coupled.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 1, wherein the configuring step includes arranging content displayed on a display device of the information handling system, the content corresponding to devices communicatively coupled to the ports in a manner corresponding to usage by the devices of the ports.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 3, wherein said defined relation is a priority based on the utilized ports and said arranging includes positioning the display of content in a the priority based on the utilized ports.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 3, wherein the user-interface is arranged so that content corresponding to a first device and content

corresponding to a second device are displayed based upon the ports utilized by the first device and the second device.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 1, wherein said defined relation is a priority ~~is assigned~~ to at least a portion of the plurality of ports, the priority assigned being utilized to configure the user-interface.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim ~~7~~31, wherein a higher priority is assigned the first port than the second port, and the priority is utilized to configure the user-interface.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 1, wherein the defined relation comprises at least one of (i) an order of priority and (ii) port locations, and wherein the configuring step includes at least one of placing a display of information in an order of priority and displaying information corresponding to the location of the ports corresponding to devices connected to the information handling system.

10. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 1, further comprising configuring the user-interface based on an output device communicatively coupled to the information handling system.

11. (Original) The method as described in claim 1, further comprising configuring the user interface based on applications operating on the information handling system.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 1, wherein the monitored plurality of ports are arranged in at least two groupings, the two groupings being utilized to configure the user interface.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of configuring a user interface of an information handling system based on utilization of ports included with the information handling system, comprising the steps of:

monitoring a plurality of ports included on the information handling system;
determining utilization by a first device communicatively coupled to a first port and a second device communicatively coupled to a second port of the plurality of ports; and

configuring a display of a user-interface operating on the information handling system based on the determined utilization of the first port and of the second port, wherein the configuring step includes

arranging the user-interface so that content corresponding to the first device and content corresponding to the second device is displayed based upon the ports utilized by the first device and the second ~~device-device~~,

said configuring step including at least one of (i) placing a display of information in an order of priority and (ii) displaying information corresponding to the location of the ports corresponding to devices connected to the information handling system.

14. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 13, wherein said arranging includes positioning the display of content in a said priority based on the utilized ports.

15. (Original) The method as described in claim 13, wherein the user-interface is arranged so that content corresponding to a first device and content corresponding to a second device is displayed based upon the ports utilized by the first device and the second device.

16. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 13, wherein said priority is assigned to at least a portion of the plurality of ports, the priority being utilized to configure the user-interface.

17. (Original) The method as described in claim 13, wherein the first port is located on a front portion of a chassis of the information handling system and the second port is located on a rear-portion of the chassis of the information handling system.

18. (Original) The method as described in claim 17, wherein a higher priority is assigned the first port than the second port, the priority utilized to configure the user-interface.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 13, wherein the monitored plurality of ports are arranged in at least two groupings, the groupings being utilized to configure the user interface.

21. (Currently Amended) An information handling system, comprising:
a plurality of ports suitable for communicatively coupling the information handling system to a device;
a memory suitable for storing a program of instructions;
a display device suitable for outputting a display of information; and
a processor suitable for performing a program of instructions stored in the memory, the processor being communicatively coupled to the plurality of ports, the memory and the display device wherein the program of instruction configures the processor to monitor the plurality of ports so that utilization of the ports by devices is employed to cause the processor to configure a display of a user interface so that content corresponding to each of the devices is arranged based upon which of the ports is utilized by the ~~devices-devices~~.

the program instruction further including at least one of (i) placing a display of information in an order of priority and (ii) displaying information corresponding to the location of the ports corresponding to devices connected to the information handling system

22. (Previously Presented) The information handling system as described in claim 21, wherein the program provides positioning of the display of content in a priority based on the utilized ports.

23. (Original) The information handling system as described in claim 21, wherein the user-interface is arranged so that content corresponding to a first device and content corresponding to a second device is displayed based upon the ports utilized by the first device and the second device.

24. (Original) The information handling system as described in claim 21, wherein the plurality of ports includes a first port located on a front portion of a chassis of the information handling system and a second port located on a rear-portion of the chassis of the information handling system.

25. (Previously Presented) The information handling system as described in claim 24, wherein a higher priority is assigned the first port than the second port, and the priority is utilized to configure the user-interface.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The information handling system as described in claim 21, wherein the plurality of ports are arranged in at least two groupings, the groupings being utilized to configure the user interface.

28. (Currently Amended) An information handling system, comprising:
 ~~means a plurality of ports~~ for coupling the information handling system to at least
two ~~one~~-peripheral device;
 means for storing a program of instructions;
 means for displaying an output on a display of the information handling system;
and

means coupled to said plurality of ports for processing a program of instructions stored in said storing means, wherein the program of instructions configures said processing means based on utilization of said ports ~~coupling means~~ by the at least one peripheral device, causing said processing means to configure the output of said displaying means so that the output includes content corresponding to a function of at least one of the at least two one-peripheral device, and so that said output is arranged in a priority based on the ports utilized by the at least two peripheral devices.

29. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 46 wherein priority is assigned ~~further~~ based on temporal considerations wherein the later connected peripheral device is given higher priority than a peripheral device that has already been connected.

30. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 46 wherein priority is assigned using a look up table based on heuristic data.

31. (New) A method of configuring a user interface of an information handling system based on, utilization of ports included with the information handling system, comprising the steps of:

monitoring a plurality of ports included on the information handling system;
determining utilization by a utilization device of a port of the plurality of ports
wherein

the utilization device is communicatively coupled to at least said port of the plurality of ports; and

configuring a user-interface operating on the information handling system
based on the determined utilization by the device of the port of the plurality of ports,

the plurality of ports including a first port located on a front portion of a chassis of the information handling system and a second port located on a rear portion of the chassis of the information handling system.